

THE INSIDER

A Publication for Members - March 2012

The Association of State Floodplain Managers

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ASFPM Presents Comments on Levee Mapping Procedures

Utilizing the committee process, ASFPM developed a formal letter commenting on flood mapping residual risk areas behind levees. This letter was submitted on January 30, 2012. To read more on the process, [click here](#). To access the comments directly, please [click here](#).

ASFPM Comments on Executive Order 11988

On February 10, 2012, ASFPM submitted comments regarding proposed changes as they related to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) use of Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990. For a copy of the submitted comments, please [click here](#).

ASFPM Posts 2012 Legislative and Policy Priorities Online

February 22, 2012, the ASFPM Board of Directors passed the [ASFPM 2012 Legislative and Policy Priorities](#). For the condensed list, please [click here](#).

ASFPM Releases Statement on President Obama's 2013 Budget Request for FEMA

In response to President Obama's 2013 budget request for FEMA, ASFPM notes that it is mitigation, more so than preparedness, response, and recovery, that serves to reduce or eliminate long-term costs and damages due to hazard events - and ASFPM is concerned, given the trend of increasing damages in the United States, that the Administration is choosing to make significant cuts in hazard mitigation programs. [Click here](#) or go to the [ASFPM Statement on the Hazard Mitigation Programs in the FY2013 Budget Including the Proposed Elimination of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program](#). For more, see [ASFPM's Outside Witness Testimony before the Subcommittee on Homeland Security, House Committee on Appropriations](#).

National Flood Safety Awareness Week

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), partnered for National Flood Safety Awareness Week in early March. Together, they worked to provide the public with key information related to flood hazards, and ways to protect life and property each day of National Flood Safety Awareness week.

The blog, <http://blog.fema.gov/>, was updated throughout the week as a way to further inform readers and encourage them to get involved. Additional resources can be accessed online at [Flood Safety Awareness](#). NOAA issued the [2012 U.S. Spring Outlook and Flood Assessment](#) on March 15. For more on flood safety tips and information, visit <http://www.ready.gov/> Click [here](#) for more on the partnering effort.

In recognition of National Flood Safety Awareness Week, [American Rivers](#) recently posted their [Top Ten Flood Facts](#). Visit their blog for more detail or [follow this link](#) for highlights.

[Click here](#) for more on a video released for National Flood Safety Awareness Week by the Florida Division of Emergency Management's State Floodplain Office.

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Associate Director - Operations Report - Ingrid Danler

For several days now, I have been ducking our editor Katrien. She has been reminding me that I am terribly behind in the submittal of this report, and try as I might, there was just no room in my schedule to get this done. Those “coming up for air times” are not a writer’s best time to be divinely inspired to write. Ah Ha! Isn’t this the plight of most of our membership? We wear multiple hats, simultaneously juggling the public, our local, state, and regional demands... and even completely different job duties as emergency responders, public speakers, subject matter experts, and also writers and educators.



At the ASFPM Executive Office we are aware of the competing priorities that all floodplain managers face, and we continue in our efforts to streamline our operations and bring even better value to the on-the-ground membership. We have begun a top down look at every aspect of our Association and are asking the difficult questions to make sure that what we do is of high quality, achievable, and transparent.

Our Board of Directors and Certification Board of Regents are following suit.

In mid-February, the [Board of Directors](#) met at our spring retreat in Ft. Worth, TX. Here, they not only passed our [annual legislative priorities](#), but also approved three committees to continue the work that was begun by an earlier set of directors for proceeding with Chapters, By-law changes, and the Long-term Financial Plan, respectively. We have also begun a new cycle of board training and responsibilities in order to comply with the IRS and other new not-for-profit regulations, and we plan to continue this as new leadership join the Association. Besides being a productive Board of Directors, this has been an incredibly joyful group of people to work with, with much credit to our current Chair, Sally McConkey (IL).

Our Certification Board of Regents ([CBOR](#)) recently met for their retreat, to not only continue with the recommendations of our Reliability & Validity study intended to maintain the credibility of the exam, but to also look at other aspects of taking the exam, CEU’s, and elevating the profession by examining the Department of Labor classifications and Higher Education. Under the leadership of CBOR Chair, Tom Morey (KS), this group is working to tackle the growing needs of the profession. Their efforts help to ensure that the exam is relevant to changes such as the addition of new questions for natural and beneficial functions of floodplains.

Our thirteen Committees continue to be the workhorses of the organization, most notably creating the recent [LAMP comments](#), changes to the Elevation Certificate (EC) forms, and many others. The Board passed a new policy on how issues get distributed to the committees and further processed at the Executive Office, in getting them into the final and submitted form. This has been going very well. This work is streamlining-in-action, and Vice-Chair Bill Nechamen (NY) has done an excellent job of tracking deadlines and keeping the large group of volunteers focused. Feel free to see all work products on each committee’s pages, accessible through the [ASFPM website](#).

And be sure to join us in San Antonio, May 21-24, as we celebrate [Mission Mitigation](#)!

2012 ASFPM Elections Under Way

It’s that time of year again - the ASFPM elections have begun! Ballots will be sent via email in the coming weeks. Please watch your inbox and vote. This is one opportunity in which your voice can help shape the Association. Be sure to make the most of your chance to help select our leaders.

For more on how your voice and participation as a member can make all the difference, please see our long-time member, Dan Accurti’s, [member reflections](#).



ASFPM Conference Registration Early Discount

As of **April 14, 2012**, the Early Discount will no longer apply and time is of the essence! Have you registered? [Read further for more information](#).

ASFPM Board of Directors, February 2012, Fort Worth, TX,



Pictured L-R:

Larry Larson, Executive Director; Terri Turner, Region 4 Director; Michael Dopko, District 1 Chapter Director; Michelle Burnett, Region 1 Director; Tim Trautman, Mitigation POD Facilitator; Chad Berginnis, Associate Director; Brad Anderson, District 4 Chapter Director; Bill Nechamen, Vice Chair; Jeff Sparrow, Training/Outreach/Education POD Facilitator; Dave Fowler, Watershed POD Facilitator; Ceil Strauss, Region 5 Director; Siavash Beik, Technical POD Facilitator; Bob Freitag, Region 10 Director; Paul Woodward, Region 7 Director; Alisa Sauvageot, Region 9 Director; Ingrid Danler, Associate Director-Operations; Laura Tessieri, Region 2; Sally McConkey, Chair; Heidi Carlin, Region 6 Director; Jeff Sickles, Region 8 Director; Alan Giles, Secretary. Not pictured: John Crofts, Treasurer; Alison Meehan, Region 3 Director; Gerald Robinson, District 2 Chapter Director; Diane Calhoun, District 3 Chapter Director; Valerie Swick, District 5 Chapter Director.

ASFPM 2012 Legislative and Policy Priorities Passed and Available Online

On February 22, 2012, the [ASFPM Board](#) passed the ASFPM 2012 Legislative and Policy Priorities. Items include:

- Overarching Policy Issues
- National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Reform
- Water Resources Development Act (WRDA-USACE authorities)
- Stafford Act
- Any New Jobs and/or Infrastructure Bill
- Appropriations/Budgets
- Other Possible Legislation in 2012
- Flood Risk Management, including Managing Catastrophic Losses
- Coastal Policy and Programs
- Comprehensive National Water Policy
- Levee Risk Management and Levee Systems
- Mapping--- Risk MAP
- Mitigation
- Tax Provisions

For more, please see [ASFPM 2012 Legislative and Policy Priorities](#) on ASFPM's website. This document is available at [National Policy and Programs > Working with Congress](#)



ASFPM Foundation

The 2012 ASFPM Conference is fast approaching and that means we are rounding up items for ASFPM Foundation's TENTH Annual Silent Auction! Every year, through your generous donations, we have been able to collect several thousand dollars for the support of worthy causes. The ASFPM Foundation serves as an advocate and a voice for you – the practitioner, supplier, or service provider – through its support of ASFPM and its long-range planning mission. This year is no different, and we are counting on your contributions to help the Foundation reach its goals toward sustainable floodplain management in the nation.

The Silent Auction is a fun way for you to help provide financial support to the ASFPM Foundation. And it is a fun way for you to get a tax deduction for your donation! We understand that in these economic times many are not able to do as much as they would like to do, but we really do need your help. Any size donation is greatly appreciated. You or a group of peers (from your employer, chapter, friends, whatever!) should easily be able to find something of value that somebody else wants and will bid on. Or put your talents to work and create something artsy / crafts to offer up. You could even consider re-gifting a present you received but cannot use.

We have found that the unique, the local, and the handmade items generate a great deal of interest so here is a list of things you might consider:

- *Photography – scenery is popular, matted and plastic wrapped but not framed sells better because it fits in a suitcase!*
- *sports or backpacking equipment (lightweight, hand-held, easy to pack)*
- *electronic gadgetry is always highly sought after*
- *local food and/or wine gathered in a collapsible container (those baskets are hard to take on the plane!)*
- *dolls or toys*
- *needlework, beading, painting (on a small canvas, a scarf, quilt, or a bag)*
- *jewelry (handmade or with artist's background)*
- *woodworking (bowls, frames, boxes, toys)*
- *pottery or sculpture funny (as in last year's "Red Neck Beauty Spa Kit")*
- *books that are unique to water issues or a collection that is autographed*

OFFERINGS ARE BEING ACCEPTED NOW! To make your 2012 tax-deductible donation to the Silent Auction, please provide the following information to the Silent Auction Coordinator - [Luci Sherwood](#):

- o *Description of Item (and number of each unit donated if applicable)*
- o *Fair Market Value (include any shipping costs)*
- o *Your phone, email, mailing address, and company or affiliation*
- o *When and how the item will be available for table placement (this takes place on Monday May 21st)*
- o *Name and address for donation acknowledgement letter, if applicable*

For shipping / delivery information please go to the [Auction page on the Foundation website](#). Still have questions? Contact Luci at dasherwood@g.com or ASFPM Outreach and Events Manager, Diane Brown, at diane@floods.org or [608-441-3003](tel:608-441-3003). Thank you for your support!

Additional ASFPM Foundation information is available on the website: <http://www.asfpmfoundation.org/>



ASFPM PRESENTS THE 2012 CONFERENCE

MISSION MITIGATION



ASFPM Conference Update

ASFPM 36th Annual National Conference | Mission Mitigation
San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter | San Antonio, TX
May 20 – 25, 2012

Howdy, y'all! The ASFPM conference team is on a Mission - *Mission Mitigation*, that is! With just two months remaining before we convene in San Antonio for the world's premier flood conference, the team is busy planning for a great week filled with state-of-the-art training, outstanding plenary sessions, intriguing field tours, and, of course, just a bit of Texas-sized fun. Make plans now to join us!

ASFPM is very pleased to announce the launch of a new website just for our national conference. Please visit www.asfpmconference.org for complete details on the full conference program, the networking activities, our sponsors and exhibitors, and registration information. We hope you find this new design helpful in planning what will certainly be a busy week.

Our host hotel, the San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter, is filling up quickly. Don't delay in making your hotel reservations at the Marriott to ensure you'll be right in the middle of all the action. The best way to ensure the best rates and placement within the ASFPM block is to visit the [hotel's ASFPM webpage directly](#).

If you have any questions, please contact ASFPM Conferences & Special Events Planner Chad Ross at chad@floods.org. Thanks and we'll see you in San Antonio!

CFM[®] Corner

The email address for certification questions is cfm@floods.org. This section will appear in each issue of the Insider. For suggestions on specific topics or questions to be covered, please send an email to Anita at this address in the ASFPM Office.



CECs- ASFPM Conference 2012

Certified Floodplain Managers (CFMs) can earn 12 core Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for attending the ASFPM conference in San Antonio, Texas. These CECs will automatically be entered in our certification database for each ASFPM CFM attending the conference.

CFMs- View your submitted CECs online

As a reminder, CFMs who are current members can log on to the members site and can view their certification file for CECs. This site shows how many CECs the person has earned, in what year the CECs were earned, and the type of CECs (Core or Parallel). If you have problems logging on or have questions about your CECs, contact Anita at cfm@floods.org



Submit your own items or suggestions for future topics to column editor Rebecca Quinn, CFM, at rcquinn@earthlink.net. Comments welcomed!

Sometimes words and their very specific meanings are important. There are plenty of times when we all use some words that we wouldn't use if we were, in fact, being very careful to be very precise. That's pretty much the reality of everyday conversation. Over the years I've run across a number of words that most of us use casually, and most of the time there is no loss of meaning or intent. Still, I think it's valuable to remind myself of the differences from time to time. The following are a few of my favorites:

"Damages" does not mean a whole lot of damage. "Damages" is a legal term meaning "compensation in money imposed by law for loss or injury." In our line of business, nobody will be confused if we refer to what's left behind after a flood or other natural hazard event occurs as "damages." I probably pay attention to this because of the lasting impression of being called out on improper use of the word – in public (by a lawyer!) – about 20 years ago.

"Disaster" is not the same as a "natural hazard event." There are plenty of floods and other natural events that don't result in harm to people or damage to the built environment. A natural hazard event only becomes what we call a disaster when people and the things we build are in the way. (FYI, I tend to be a Mother Nature was here first kind of person.) Now, to be sure, if you've ever had even an inch or two of water in your finished basement, you know you're coping with a disaster even if you're the only homeowner in town affected.

"Habitable" is a term that is generally understood to mean suitable for living. It is specifically defined in building codes. As floodplain managers, we need to be very careful to avoid using this word. It's close, but not precise, to say that all habitable spaces shall be elevated to or above the base flood elevation. Why? Because as defined in the International Code Series, the definition for "habitable space" includes the statement that "Bathrooms, toilet rooms, closets, halls, storage or utilities spaces and similar areas are not considered habitable spaces." What do we know about the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and code limitations on use of space below the Base Flood Elevation (BFE)? Uses are limited to building access, storage, and parking of vehicles (and crawlspaces, which isn't exactly a "use"). Thus, saying all habitable spaces shall be elevated leaves the impression that any space that does not meet the code definition may be permitted below the BFE. And we can easily see that's not correct.

"Zone A" is a term we all use, even though it isn't defined in NFIP regulations. The reason I include it here is because it really is used to mean two different, albeit related, things. We often casually use "Zone A" to refer to Special Flood Hazard Areas (SFHA) shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps that don't have Base Flood Elevations. These zones are also called "approximate A zones" because they are SFHAs determined using approximate methods (some people call them "unnumbered A zones"). However, "Zone A" is also used as a collective noun to refer to all flood risk zones that start with the letter "A", including those that have BFEs and those that don't. Used this way, "Zone A" includes all Zones A, AE, A1-A30, A99, AR, AO, and AH.

"Floodplain" is not the same as "special flood hazard area (SFHA)". This is another set of terms that, despite not being equivalent, probably doesn't actually cause a problem when they're used interchangeably. In its broad and general sense, "floodplain" doesn't have a specific frequency associated with it – it simply refers to land that may be inundated by floodwaters. To be precise, we don't regulate floodplains. Rather, we regulate 1%-annual-chance flood hazard areas – also known as the SFHA shown on Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM).

"100-year floodplain" is the casual label for the technical term "1%-annual chance flood hazard area." I don't fault anyone for using 100-year floodplain, especially in conversation. But doing so does contribute to the common misunderstanding of the probability of occurrence. Haven't we all met folks, after a big flood, who think they'll be "safe" for the next 99 years? Similarly, how many times have we heard objections to the SFHAs shown on FIRMs because long-time residents haven't seen a flood of that magnitude in decades? And I expect we've all had to explain how it's not all that unusual to have two or more "100-year floods" within several years of each other.

“Flood insurance” is not the same as “Federal/NFIP flood insurance.” Federal flood insurance is administered by the National Flood Insurance Program in partnership with many private insurance companies whose agents sell and write the policies. I understand there are a few insurance companies that offer their own coverage for flood risks (not backed by the NFIP). While I don’t know the details of such private policies, I’ll bet there’s at least one really important distinction with NFIP policies. I’ll bet those private policies do not include Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage. This coverage is part of Federal/NFIP flood insurance policies on buildings in special flood hazard areas shown on NFIP Flood Insurance Rate Maps. ICC coverage provides up to \$30,000 towards the cost of bringing an older building that is substantially damaged by flooding into compliance with the community’s current floodplain management regulations and codes. If anyone out there knows about private flood coverage, please get in touch to let me know if it includes coverage similar to ICC.

“Flood opening” is the correct term, but we know what is meant if someone calls it a “flood vent.” When it comes to construction, the term “vent” usually is shorthand for ventilation, which has to do with the movement of air and gases. NFIP Technical Bulletin 1 uses “air vents” and “air vent devices” to refer to the devices intended for ventilation that are inserted in or installed over foundation wall openings in order to facilitate the movement of air into and out of a crawlspace. Air vent devices typically can be closed manually or may have detachable solid covers, so that owners can close off the vents during cold weather. Flood openings must allow for the automatic entry and exit of rising and falling floodwaters in order to minimize unequal hydrostatic force on foundation walls and walls of enclosures. Flood openings come in two flavors: non-engineered openings (provide 1 sq in of net open area for each sq ft of enclosed area); and engineered openings (designed to perform as required). While an air vent device can be used as a flood opening provided it is permanently disabled in the open position, care must be taken to properly measure the net open area taking into consideration the presence of a face plate, grill, screen, grate, fixed louvers, or other covers (an example is shown in TB-1). Most manufacturers of air vents indicate the number of square inches that each device provides for air flow (a typical 8x16 air vent device or cover provides between 45 and 65 sq in net open area). TB-1 states that the same number should be used for the net open area calculation when air vent devices are installed as flood openings.

“Variance” is not the same as “waiver.” A variance is official permission to do something that is not otherwise permitted. The NFIP regulations provide for variances in 44 CFR 60.6, but only if a community processes variance requests as required in the regulation. Of particular note, variances are to be the minimum necessary – not a wholesale permission to ignore all aspects of flood resistance. The issuance of variances to the NFIP requirements is required to be based on a showing of good and sufficient cause, that the applicant will experience exceptional hardship, and that risks to others will not result. To waive something means to give it up or relinquish it voluntarily. Building codes typically allow the code official to waive or modify requirements for site plans for interior work on existing buildings and when otherwise warranted. For example, depending on the nature of the work it may be reasonable to waive the requirements that a site plan have surveyed boundary lines and be drawn to scale, provided the code official can still review the application for compliance with the technical requirements of the code. Thus, one significant difference between variances and waivers is who initiates the action: a variance is requested by the applicant and a waiver is at the discretion of the code official.

“Nonconforming” is not the same as “noncompliant.” A building that is built in violation of regulations or building codes is noncompliant: it does not comply with the requirements. “Nonconforming,” a term that is commonly used in zoning, is used to refer to buildings that pre-date the adoption of regulations or codes. Thus, a building that was built before a community adopted its floodplain management regulations and FIRM, often called “pre-FIRM,” is nonconforming. It is incorrect to call a pre-FIRM building noncompliant because it wasn’t required to comply at the time it was built.

“Exemption” is not the same as “exception,” at least when it comes to building codes. If something is exempt from a regulatory or code requirement, it is free or released from the requirements. Most building codes include a list of work exempt from the code, which typically means anyone performing such work doesn’t have to obtain a permit. Of course, floodplain managers know that the NFIP requires communities to regulate all development in special flood hazard areas, and the term “development” is very broadly defined. This means any activities that are exempt from the building code must still be regulated by the community if such activities are proposed in flood hazard areas. In building codes, “exceptions” are used to allow a prescribed reduction to a requirement (they sometimes read like alternatives). The NFIP regulations don’t use the term “exemption,” but do use the term “exception” – but only to refer to those very few communities that obtain formal FEMA approval to permit floodproofed residential basements.

[RCQ]

Community Rating System Task Force

Greg Main, CFM, ASFPM representative to the CRSTF

The Community Rating System Task Force (CRSTF) met January 10-12, 2012, in San Diego, California. The CRSTF is an interagency, multidisciplinary advisory body that has provided guidance to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) since the inception of the CRS program. The CRSTF is made up of professionals from diverse backgrounds including representatives of FEMA, ASFPM, the insurance industry, professional organizations, local governments, and other governmental entities. It serves to monitor the program, discuss needed changes, and make recommendations to FEMA. The Task Force regularly meets to support FEMA in gathering information from regional offices, the states, and local communities about the elements of the CRS. They also help to assess the effectiveness of the CRS activities and their various elements. Other duties include monitoring the workload of the Insurance Services Office and measuring the progress of the CRS in meeting the goals of FEMA, and the NFIP.

The CRSTF is supported by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) and floodplain management experts in private practice, who conduct research, prepare drafts of proposed changes to the *CRS Coordinators Manual*, and assist the Task Force in evaluating the program.

Some highlights from the San Diego meeting included:

- The CRSTF reviewed all of the issues related to the draft for the new 2012 CRS Coordinator's Manual. A series of webinars on the new changes to the manual are planned to help update those interested in the new manual changes. ASFPM is looking to help coordinate on some of these training opportunities. Summaries of the changes and the schedule of the webinars can be found at www.CRS2012.org.
- CRS Marketing Plan Update: The CRSTF continued discussion on the development of a CRS Marketing Plan to help further encourage more participation in CRS program.
- Work is under way on the development of a CRS web site that will be housed on the FloodSMART website. The first phase of this project is to move CRS information from the FEMA.gov site to the FloodSMART site. The second phase is to develop a more comprehensive site, with more items and a CRS partner section. Content development will take place later in the spring of 2012.

Since the Task Force meeting, the CRS Project Team has asked the ASFPM Floodplain Regulations and Training and Outreach Committees to help update some of the CRS guidance documents. For more information on this initiative, contact the committee chairs.

The next CRSTF meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2012. ASFPM wishes to take this time to thank Past ASFPM Chair, AL Goodman, for his time serving on the CRS Task Force for our Association. Replacing Al, as the ASFPM representative to the Task Force is Greg Main. You can contact Greg at gmain@dnr.in.gov with any suggestions or concerns regarding the CRS program.

*Please see the [ASFPM website](#) for more information on the ASFPM Committees.
Floodplain Regulations Committee contact information is available [here](#).
Training and Outreach Committee contact information is available [here](#).*

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Washington Legislative Report

By: Meredith R. Inderfurth, Washington Liaison

LEGISLATIVE AND APPROPRIATIONS ACTIVITY UNDERWAY - BUT FLOOD INSURANCE SEEMS STALLED

Now that the President's Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2013 is out, House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees have started holding hearings. Indications are that the appropriations subcommittees will begin to mark-up their bills earlier than usual this year, so the schedule of hearings is very full this month.



The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee has reported out a bill that includes amendments to the Stafford Act (Disaster Relief). Work is proceeding in both House and Senate committees to develop a Water Resources Development Act and to develop legislative language creating a levee program and/or addressing levee issues.

Flood insurance reform legislation, however, appears to be stalled. The program is set to expire yet again on May 31 unless action is taken before that time. The House bill ([H.R.1309](#)) passed the House last summer. The Senate bill ([S.1940](#)) was reported out of the Senate Banking Committee in September and filed in December. A [letter](#) to the Senate Majority and Minority leaders, signed by 41 Senators, urged that S. 1940 be brought to the Senate floor for consideration and action. At this point, no floor time has been scheduled. The Administration's report to Congress on the "Re-Thinking the NFIP" effort is expected to be released very soon. The timing of considering the legislation, the Administration's report and recommendations, and the need to avoid another hiatus in authorization, is uncertain.

A new Farm Bill will likely be enacted this year. The 2008 Farm Bill is set to expire on September 30, 2012. Congressional committees have begun an intensive series of hearings on related issues and questions including conservation programs. The US Department of Agriculture has announced a new one million acre Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) initiative to preserve grasslands and wetlands. There is some indication that a new Farm Bill could reduce the amount of acres in the CRP. A Congressional proposal would consolidate 23 conservation programs into 13.

Committees in both the House and Senate are actively studying draft legislative proposals dealing with financing for community water infrastructure. Hearings have been held and further hearings are expected this spring.

BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS

Senate leadership has indicated they do not plan to develop a Budget Resolution this year because they will abide by the spending ceilings established in the debt limit agreement reached last August.

The House Budget Committee does intend to mark-up a Budget Resolution. It is expected that the resolution will put forward a spending cap below last summer's debt limit agreement. House leadership expected a mark-up during the week of March 19 and a resolution to be ready for floor action by the end of the month.

The House and Senate each set their own budget ceilings to guide the appropriations process. Within the ceilings, sub-ceilings are allocated to each Appropriations subcommittee.

Bills have been introduced in the House and Senate to reform the appropriations process. The most recent year in which all appropriations bills were completed by the end of the fiscal year was 1994. The two identical bills, [S.1981](#) and [H.R.3643](#), would withhold Congressional pay until the appropriations process is complete each year, with no retroactivity. Another bill, [S.211](#), would implement a two year budgeting cycle. The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was set to hold a hearing on these bills on March 14, 2012.

Continued on page 10

During the week of March 5, 2012, House Appropriations Subcommittees held hearings on budget requests for FEMA, the US Army Corps of Engineers – Civil Works, and the US Geological Survey.

FEMA

FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate testified. In a departure from usual practice, the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee also heard from a panel of stakeholder witnesses. Those included the National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), the International Association of Firefighters, the Association of Port Authorities, the American Public Transit Association and the National Fusion Centers Association.

The President's Budget Request for FY13 eliminates the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program (PDM). It instead includes hazard mitigation in a major new grant program, National Preparedness Grant Program, which rolls together 16 grant programs. Those range from terrorism preparedness to hazard mitigation, but the Emergency Preparedness Grant Program (EMGP) and the Firefighter grant program are specifically exempted. The budget request includes yet another reduction in funding for FEMA's flood mapping program, RiskMAP. Appropriated funds would be \$89.3 million, down from \$97.7 million in FY12 and \$220 million in FY10. Policy fee funds also support the mapping program. The [ASFPM statement on the FY13 FEMA budget request](#) is posted on the ASFPM website under the [National Policy and Programs tab](#).

Much of the hearing focused on the new grant program, to be funded at \$1.5 billion. Craig Fugate testified about the benefits and efficiencies to be gained from the synergies among the 16 programs. There was considerable skepticism among subcommittee members, largely because of concerns about funding for various activities. Only NEMA and the National Fusion Centers Association testified in full support of the new grant program. Administrator Fugate testified that Secretary Napolitano has indicated that the Urban Area Security Initiative and the Homeland Security Grant program would be priorities within the NPGP. The witness for the fusion centers indicated that Secretary Napolitano had also indicated that the fusion centers would be a priority.

Several subcommittee members expressed concern that little detail is available about how the program would operate other than the vision statement released with the budget request and viewable on the FEMA website.

Representative David Price (D-NC), Ranking Minority Member, asked such questions as how the funding level would be set for the two or three "priority" programs, what the minimum per state allocation would be, how priorities would be developed for the competitive part of the program, and how do we rank competing risks? Representative Tom Latham (R-IA) expressed great concern about elimination of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program (PDM) and noted that pre-disaster mitigation is much less expensive than paying for losses after a disaster.

Army Corps of Engineers

Testimony was provided by Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Jo-Ellen Darcy and by General Bo Temple, Chief of Civil Works. Ms. Darcy testified that the Civil Works budget request is \$270 million less than the FY12 funding level. Priorities for FY13 are commercial navigation, flood and stormwater damage reduction, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. Also of importance are protection of water and wetlands and emergency preparedness and training. She noted that \$3 million is being allocated for the Silver Jackets program which she characterized as providing for evaluation of the potential for non-structural floodplain management, particularly during post disaster decision making.

Subcommittee Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) noted a disconnect between the appropriations request and actual spending levels, and expressed concern that the budget request underfunds the Corps. Representative Rodney Alexander (R-LA) asked how the Corps works with FEMA on issues associated with levee decertification and depiction of those levees on flood maps.

US Geological Survey (USGS)

USGS Director Marcia McNutt testified. The overall budget request is slightly increased for FY13 and totals \$1.1 billion. Over the past decade and a half, the overall USGS budget has been almost flat in real dollars. The budget includes increases in some areas, but unfortunately, those are largely offset by decreases in other areas. The budget includes funding for inundation mapping and an increase for the National Streamflow Information Program (NSIP) but a decrease for the cooperative streamgauge program.

On March 8, 2012, the USGS Coalition met and decided to submit outside witness testimony requesting a budget of \$1.2 billion in order to support restoration of funds for some of the basic science and data collection programs that were reduced.

OTHER LEGISLATION TO WATCH

FEMA Reauthorization

The House Transportation and Infrastructure reported out a bill, [H.R.2903](#), on March 8, 2012, which reauthorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the next two years. Title II of the bill focuses on amendments to the Stafford Act (disaster assistance). Among its other provisions, it reauthorizes the Emergency Management Assistance Compact grants (EMAC) and reauthorizes the National Dam Safety Program. It also requires FEMA to establish criteria within 180 days for state administration of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). Additionally, it sets up a pilot program for revised procedures for Public Assistance (Section 406 of the Stafford Act).

Flood Insurance for Farmers Act

[H.R.4020](#), introduced in late February by Representative John Garamendi (D-CA), would create a new agricultural zone for flood insurance purposes. It would allow premiums at a Zone X rate in agricultural areas where levees are not accredited. It would also eliminate floodproofing building standards in the new zone. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

Levees on FEMA Buy-Out Land

Senator John Hoeven (R-ND) introduced [S.2039](#), a bill to allow a state or local government to construct levees on land bought out under FEMA hazard mitigation programs and designated as open space. After being introduced in February, the bill was almost immediately brought up on the Senate floor and passed under Unanimous Consent. The measure is now awaiting consideration by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. ASFPM has sent a [letter](#) to the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee, expressing concern about the bill and explaining the reasons for concern.

COALITIONS

Most coalitions in which ASFPM participates have been actively meeting as Congressional activity has moved into high gear.

Congressional Hazards Caucus Alliance

The Alliance has met twice this year and will sponsor a briefing for Congressional staff on tsunamis later this month. The Alliance is interested in working with ASFPM and the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) to sponsor a briefing on levee issues later this spring.

Flood Map Coalition

The coalition is in the process of scheduling a meeting with FEMA risk identification staff for a periodic briefing on the status of RiskMAP activity.

Stafford Coalition

The Stafford Coalition has met twice so far this year. Most recently, the coalition met with Republican and Democratic staff of the House Transportation and Infrastructure to discuss the FEMA Reauthorization bill, [H.R.2903](#).

USGS Coalition

The coalition has met twice this year, most recently to discuss development of outside witness testimony on the USGS budget request.

All legislation referenced can be found by going to: <http://thomas.loc.gov> and typing in the bill number or subject.

General News & Information



Around the World



Australia

March 19, 2012, the Australian insurance industry supported findings of a newly released Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry report, backing calls for flood mitigation measures. The devastating Queensland floods of 2011 served as a harsh “wake-up call” and Council Chief Executive, Rob Whelan, said that any repeat of last year’s floods in the same communities would be a “failure of mitigation, not a failure of insurance.” For more, [click here](#).

Thailand

JBA Risk Management recently launched the first nationwide flood model for Thailand, in order to help insurers and reinsurers to quantify their exposures. [Read here](#) for more on this story.



United Kingdom

The [Know Your Flood Risk campaign](#), in conjunction with RAB consultants, produced a guide aimed to reduce the worry about what flood protection products to use, illustrating the variety of ways in which a home can be protected, demonstrating how the various products can be fitted, and explaining when it is appropriate to use them - all written with the homeowner in mind. Please follow the link to [read more](#).

World Water Day

March 22, 2012 marked World Water Day. Initially proposed at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, World Water Day serves to focus on the world’s water resources.



Top Ten Flood Facts from American Rivers

- 1) Floods are the most common natural hazards in the United States.
- 2) Floodplains provide roughly 25 percent of all land-based ecosystem service benefits yet they represent just 2 percent of Earth’s land surface.
- 3) Wetlands in the United States save more than \$30 billion in annual flood damage repair costs.
- 4) Over the past century, we have experienced more intense and frequent storms.
- 5) Damages from flood losses have increased to an average \$10 billion per year.
- 6) In 2011 alone, there were 58 Federal flood disaster declarations, covering 33 different states.
- 7) A homeowner with a 30-year mortgage in a 100-year flood area has a 1 in 4 chance that such a flood will occur and more than double the chance of being damaged by a flood than by a fire.
- 8) Roughly 17% of all the urban land in the United States is located in the “100-year” or high risk flood zone.
- 9) Flood mitigation practices that reduce the loss of life and damages to properties provide \$5 in benefits for every dollar invested.
- 10) Levees can and do fail - often with catastrophic consequences.

Please see the [American Rivers Top Ten Flood Facts](#) for more detailed information and look to ASFPM’s April News & Views for more on American Rivers.

Stateside

Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) Building Code Ratings Release

IBHS has recently released a [report](#) of the analysis of building codes in 18 Gulf Coast and Atlantic states. This report also gives these states recommendations on how to improve their code systems. To access the report and summary, as well as a state-by-state ranking and state-specific description of the issues, please read further: [News Release](#), [Full Report](#), [Key Points](#)

Gays Mills, WI - Community Relocation Out of the Floodplain

The Village of Gays Mills was struck by back-to-back floods in August 2007 and June 2008. Both flood events were greater than 500-year flood events, which resulted in substantial losses to residences and businesses within the Village. With these devastating floods occurring so close together, the Village began earnestly considering the possibility of relocating the portion of the Village located in the floodplain. To read further, please see the January 29 article in the [Wisconsin State Journal](#) or access the [Gays Mills Long-term Community Recovery Plan](#).

ASFPM Comments on Executive Order 11988

On February 10, 2012, ASFPM submitted comments regarding proposed changes as they related to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) use of Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990.

For a copy of the submitted comments, please [click here](#).

ASFPM Presents General Comments on Flood Mapping Residual Risk Areas Behind Levees

FEMA recently released its proposed new levee mapping approach for mapping areas behind levees that are not accredited. This was in response to concerns about the "without levee" mapping approach. FEMA requested comments and gave the public an opportunity to [provide input](#) regarding the new approach. A [fact sheet](#), the [Federal Register notice](#), the [proposed approach](#), and [FEMA Analysis and Mapping Project-Questions for Consideration](#) are all posted on the [ASFPM Levees and Flood Insurance page](#). ASFPM utilized the committee process to develop comments for a formal ASFPM letter. As a matter of national policy, the NFIP must view levees and dams as temporary features that have temporary effects on the nation's floodplains. A levee which is designed to contain a given flood, such as the 100-year flood, will be overtopped by a larger flood and the damage from the larger event will be exceptionally larger if no mitigation measures apply behind the levee, and the federal taxpayer ends up footing the bill if flood insurance is not required. Even well designed, constructed, and operated levees have the probability of overtopping or failing, with catastrophic consequences. As such, and since the NFIP pays claims for these larger flood events, those areas should be mapped, development standards required, and flood insurance required, with the expected damages considered in premium rates. Please see the ASFPM website to view the consolidated [Levee Assessment Mapping Process comments](#)

ASFPM Releases Statement on President Obama's 2013 Budget Request for FEMA

On March 8, 2012, ASFPM released a statement on President Obama's 2013 budget request for FEMA. In its statement, the Association of State Floodplain Managers indicated there should be no additional cuts to the flood mapping program due to extensive cuts in FY12, preservation of FEMA's only pre-disaster all hazard mitigation program which is targeted for elimination with funding at least equivalent to FY12, and the delay in creation of the National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP). ASFPM has called for much more extensive partner engagement to discuss purpose of the NPGP and questions the efficacy of including mitigation programs in one that is focused on terrorism and preparedness – at the expense of hazard mitigation. ASFPM notes that it is mitigation, more so than preparedness, response, and recovery, that serves to reduce or eliminate long term costs and damages due to hazard events - and ASFPM is concerned, given the trend of increasing damages in the United States, that the Administration is choosing to make significant cuts in hazard mitigation programs. To access the statement, please click the following link: [Statement on the Hazard Mitigation Programs in the FY2013 Budget Including the Proposed Elimination of the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program](#)

ASFPM Provides Outside Witness Testimony - FEMA FY13 Budget

The President's proposed FY2013 budget eliminates the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grant Program and makes additional cuts to the flood mapping program from last year. ASFPM provided Outside Witness Testimony to the Subcommittee on Homeland Security, House Committee on Appropriations regarding the FY13 Budget. Our Testimony expressed deep concern over eliminating PDM and the additional mapping cuts in FY13, commented on the new proposed National Preparedness Grant Program (NPGP), and supported streamlining and funding increases to flood mitigation grant programs under the NFIP. Click the following to access the [ASFPM's Outside Witness Testimony before the Subcommittee on Homeland Security, House Committee on Appropriations](#).

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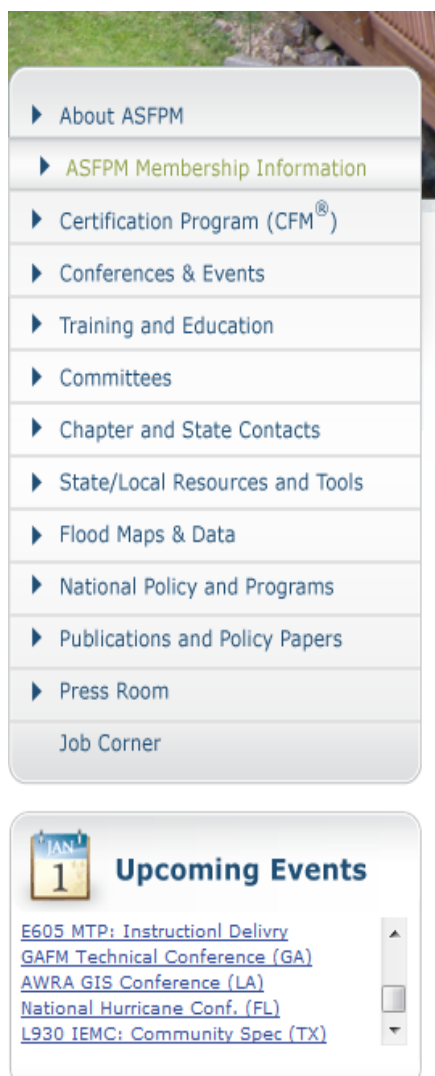
Floods.org Tips & Review

Keyword Search Field

Have you used the ASFPM website's keyword search field? If you go to www.floods.org and look in the upper right corner of any page on our website, you'll see the search field. Type in what you're looking for and it will even allow you to limit results within our website by: Calendar, Documents, Web Pages or All. This feature is also helpful when searching for items you know are on the website, but for which you aren't sure where they might be located. Rather than searching each menu, just use the keyword or phrase search!



- *Tip:* If you type in a state's initials in parenthesis, for example, "(WI)" into the keyword search field and click on box next to Calendar to limit results, it will pull all the events (training, conferences, etc.) on the current calendar for your state. What a great way to find upcoming training for CECs! The only events without a state listed in the event title are EMI courses which are all held in Emmitsburg, MD.



Event Calendar

The ASFPM website has an event calendar that is more comprehensive and useful than the just the event listings appearing in our newsletters and online. To access the calendar, go to www.floods.org and scroll down the main page to just below the menu on the left side of the page. You will see an Upcoming Events button showing the most current events posted for the present week or month. If you click on the title of the button "Upcoming Events" it will take you to a calendar that can be flipped through, by month, to see upcoming training, conferences, and ASFPM events. All events except EMI courses have the location's state initials listed in parenthesis in the title of the event for easy reading.

- *Tip #1:* If you go to the month to month calendar and click on the drop down menu at the top of the calendar, you view All Categories or you can sort the events by type: ASFPM Conferences, ASFPM Events, Chapter Conferences, CFM Exam, Conferences, Training.
- *Tip #2:* If you use the Keyword Search field at the top of the page and type in a state's initials in parenthesis, for example, "(WI)" into the keyword search field and click on box next to Calendar to limit results, it will pull all the events (training, conferences, etc.) on the current calendar for your state. What a great way to find upcoming training for CECs! The only events without a state listed in the title are EMI courses which are all held in Emmitsburg, MD.
- *Tip #3:* Chapters, States, Regions, and Agency Partners may send upcoming event listings to ASFPM and we will post them on our Event Calendar at no cost. All postings subject to ASFPM approval.
- *Tip #4:* Chapters lacking the time and resources to maintain a calendar on their websites, can link directly the ASFPM Event Calendar page from their website for members to search for scheduled events.
- If you know of an event that is not listed, but should be on our Event Calendar page, please send it to Kait@floods.org to have it posted. Please allow 2-3 weeks lead time for posting prior to the event.

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Outreach, Videos, and Social Media

ASFPM LinkedIn Discussion on Green Infrastructure

Please join the discussion by posting your *Green Infrastructure* and Floodplain Management comments to the [ASFPM discussion on LinkedIn](#)! For additional background, [click here](#).

ASFPM 36th Annual National Conference - On Facebook

Are you wondering who else is planning to attend? Join our [ASFPM Facebook Event Page](#) to find out!

Know Your Flood Risk - YouTube Page

To view a number of videos released by the UK's Know Your Flood Risk campaign, click [HERE](#).

Meet "Disaster" and "Preparedness"

From Kansas City, the Metropolitan Emergency Managers Committee recently produced a fun little video which seeks to emphasize the need for preparing before disaster strikes. Styled similarly to the Mac vs. PC advertisements, popular a few years ago, it is a creative use of YouTube for reaching the public. Check it out [here](#).

Florida's State Floodplain Office Releases National Flood Safety Week Video

As part of National Flood Safety Awareness Week, the Florida Division of Emergency Management's State Floodplain Office released a very informative video on flood risks in Florida and how best to prepare.

To watch the video, [click here](#).

Stream Model and Video at Brigham Young University's College of Physical and Mathematical Sciences

February 29, 2012, BYU held a Stream Table Open House to showcase their new Stream Table, Em4, from [Little River Research and Design](#). Interested in seeing how this worked? Click [here](#) or [here](#). Who knew lego people could be so compelling in demonstrating the need for responsible land use...?

Has your organization released flood safety videos or recently launched an innovative use of social media?

If you would like to see these efforts shared in the ASFPM newsletter, please contact Katrien at katrien@floods.org

Top Ten Books for Floodplain Managers - What are you Reading?

ASFPM is appealing to YOU, our members, for your best of the best preferred floodplain management resources.

Non-fiction, fiction, case studies, guidelines, biographies, or that funny little book you happened upon by chance - all are welcome!

Please go to our [ASFPM Facebook](#) page and/or [LinkedIn](#) to join the discussion and share some of your favorite influential books. Works may be geared to the general public, the general floodplain industry, or to a specific technical element of your work.

If possible, we ask that you include a short description of the book and your reason for recommending it. Who would most benefit from reading it? How were you first exposed? When has it proven particularly useful?



As we receive your feedback, we will be pulling together a recommended *Top Ten Reading List for Floodplain Managers*. If you are not able to participate on Facebook or LinkedIn, please submit your suggestions to Katrien at katrien@floods.org. She will be happy to include your suggestions - the more the merrier!

Member Reflections

Getting Involved with ASFPM - What You Give is What You Get

A letter from longtime ASFPM member, Dan Accurti, on the great reward of actively engaging in the symbiotic relationship that comes of giving back to an organization with whom active involvement strengthens both personal and professional benefits :

While reading the latest issue of the Insider, I started to reflect on ASFPM – where it was when I first became involved and what it is today. WOW! I don't think any of us involved back then could have ever imagined.

*This led to some personal reflection on what ASFPM has meant to me, and the benefits that I have accrued **FROM** association involvement.*

*This then led to thinking about what I may have actually provided **TO** the association that may have assisted it in its growth and progress.*

In the last issue of The Insider, there was an article pointing out the benefits of stepping up and accepting leadership roles. From an unassuming guy in Pennsylvania who tried to make a difference, I can attest to these benefits.

The Association has certainly matured and grown. For me, this will mark 30 years of active involvement. While that is perhaps a personal milestone for longevity, it has been a time frame of providing whatever assistance I could whenever it was asked of me. All in all, I feel proud of the list on contributions that have propelled ASFPM forward, and am thankful that ASFPM enabled me to grow and reap so many rewards along the way.

Dan

Some of Dan's many contributions in shaping the organization, both as an individual taking initiative and as a leading member working within the group, have included:

Challenging ASFPM to produce a 'real' newsletter, including suggesting the name "News & Views." While some elements have changed, the general format and design are still very similar to what was initiated in 1983. In 1986-1987, Dan encouraged increased communications in the form of a members-only benefit newsletter, eventually leading to the launch of The Insider.

Conference contribution and support included pushing for an official brochure, appointing an exhibit coordinator, convincing a few agencies to sign on as the initial co-sponsors, encouraging social activities, and pushing for integration of the mechanics and meetings of the organization into the conference. The first brochure resulted in record setting attendance. The exhibits and co-sponsors were well received support and an additional source of conference revenue. The social activities helped to promote future conference growth by encouraging networking and bringing people back for more of that warm fuzzy feeling. The integration just made sense.

Furthermore, there was a point in time in which the Association had a parallel structure for non-state members - including their own officers, etc. Dan pushed for change which resulted in the Constitution and Bylaw changes of today, thus setting the stage for the personal involvement that has enabled ASFPM to succeed further. Dan was also a formative member in the creation of ADCO, the way in which ASFPM handled their finances, and in the formulation of the Foundation. ADCO was one of the first major actions to help shift ASFPM from Chair-centered to more efficient board-led. His work as ASFPM treasurer led to positive changes in that realm, and Dan served on the Board of Trustees with the Foundation. The Association of State Floodplain Managers thrives on the participation of our members and it is through your dedication and efforts that ASFPM has grown to where we are today and will continue to grow in the future. Dan also served as Chair for ASFPM from 1987-1989.

1987 - Socializing in Seattle

2004 - Pictured with founding leaders, Gilbert White and Jack Sheaffer.



1989 - Dan preparing remarks for the opening plenary session in Scottsdale.

2011 - Awards Ceremony in Louisville.

News from the Committees

Nonstructural Floodproofing Committee

Flood Barrier Certification Program to be Unveiled in San Antonio

At the Association of State Floodplain Managers' (ASFPM) 2012 Conference, ASFPM will announce a new certification program for temporary flood barriers. This certification program will allow for testing and certification of temporary flood barriers and their materials. This certification and testing program will make sure the product and materials function successfully and as expected during a real flood event.

Nearly 10 years ago, the [ASFPM Nonstructural/Floodproofing Committee](#) started on this project due to requests from ASFPM members, mainly vendors who are on the committee. ASFPM sought out the Army Corps of Engineers as a partner because of their knowledge and capability in the water testing area. The ASFPM Committee also approached FM Approvals and Underwriters Laboratories (UL) as potential testing partners, finally working out an arrangement with Underwriters Laboratories.

In working with UL, the program moved forward and completed testing of one product. The product did not pass and the working relationship with UL ended. However, the testing of this product provided ASFPM with a better understanding of what was needed to make the program successful.

In 2009, the ASFPM Nonstructural/Floodproofing Committee decided to reach out to FM Approvals again. FM was willing to work with ASFPM in moving this certification program forward. Because of the hard work and dedication of members of the ASFPM Nonstructural/Floodproofing Committee, Corps of Engineers, and FM Approvals; ASFPM will be able to roll out this certification and testing program at the ASFPM Annual Conference.

ASFPM would like to remind our 2012 ASFPM Annual National Conference attendees that the Monday Committee Meetings will be open to everyone. Please feel free to attend any that are of particular interest to you! The Committee meetings present the best "one stop shopping" for detailed information about national policies in your areas of interest. Not only will you learn the current status and developments in policy areas, but you will have an opportunity to influence those policies should you wish to get more involved. All ASFPM committees are open to all and all welcome people who wish to simply attend to learn or who wish to get involved.

Chapter Corner

ASFPM Welcomes 33rd Chapter, Tennessee!

Please join us in welcoming Tennessee as the 33rd ASFPM Chapter! The ASFPM Board approved the addition of the Tennessee Association of Floodplain Management (TN AFPM) as the 33rd ASFPM Chapter at their February Board Meeting. TN AFPM is the eighth and final ASFPM Chapter in Region IV. Visit TN AFPM at their [website](#).

Free Webinars for Nonprofits - March

- [Proposal Budgeting Basics](#) 3/28/12 @ 3:00PM ET
- [Introduction to Corporate Giving](#) 3/29/12 @ 1:00PM ET

News from the Chapters - Get involved!

ASFPM is looking to highlight Chapter successes, challenges, and learning lessons, so that others may also benefit from the efforts. Many minds are better than one. Is your Chapter engaged in noteworthy action that may be of interest to readers elsewhere in the nation? If so, please contact Kait at kait@floods.org and Katrien at katrien@floods.org so that we may share your story!

2012 CHAPTER MEETING

~ SAVE THE DATE ~

Thursday, May 24, 2012

**2:30pm – 4:30pm
San Antonio, TX**

Chapters are encouraged to sponsor one Chapter board member's attendance at the 2012 conference as their representative at this year's Chapter Meeting.

All Chapter board members and Committee Chairs are invited to attend.

**The next all Chapters conference call is July 19, 2012, 1:00 p.m. Central Time.
All Chapter Board and Committee members are invited to participate.
Please contact Kait at kait@floods.org to submit agenda items & RSVP.**

Scholarships, Grants

Mary Fran Myers Scholarship

Deadline: March 26, 2012

The Mary Fran Myers Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications. Recipients will receive financial support allowing them to attend the [2012 Natural Hazards Research and Applications Workshop](#) in Broomfield, Colorado, July 14-17, 2012. Recipients may also stay through July 18 to attend either the International Research Committee on Disasters or the Natural Hazard Mitigation Association add-on events for researchers and practitioners, respectively. Scholarships can cover part or all of transportation, meals, and registration costs. For more information on past scholarship winners and how to [apply](#), visit the Natural Hazards Center's [Mary Fran Myers Scholarship page](#) or the [ASFPM Foundation's website](#).

Nick Winter Memorial Scholarship Fund

Deadline: March 31, 2012

The Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM) and the ASFPM Foundation will grant a \$2,000 scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year to a full-time college junior or senior currently enrolled in an undergraduate program related to floodplain/stormwater management, or a student enrolled in a graduate program in a field related to floodplain/stormwater management. Applicants must complete a 2012-2013 [Scholarship Application Form](#) which can be downloaded from ASFPM's website. In order to be considered, the Scholarship Review Committee must receive the 2012-2013 Scholarship Application Form and a separate reference letter prior to March 31, 2012. Email applications and reference letter to ASFPM@floods.org.

EPA Seeks Nominations for National Award for Smart Growth Achievement

Deadline: April 6, 2012

EPA is seeking nominations for the 11th annual National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. The award recognizes and supports communities that use innovative policies and strategies to strengthen their economies, provide housing and transportation choices, develop in ways that bring benefits to a wide range of residents, and protect the environment. This competition is open to public- and private-sector entities that have successfully used smart growth principles to improve communities. For the 2012 awards, one winner will be selected for each of the four categories listed below:

1. Programs and Policies
2. Equitable Development
3. Main Street or Corridor Revitalization
4. Overall Excellence in Smart Growth (all applicants to the three categories above are eligible)

Winners will be recognized at a ceremony in Washington, DC, in December 2012, and public-sector winners will receive one complimentary registration to the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference in 2013.

For more information, visit <http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/awards.htm>

2012 Walton Family Foundation Conservation Grant

Deadline: April 15, 2012

The Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture (LMVJV) partnership, working in cooperation with the Walton Family Foundation (WFF), is pleased to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for 2012 WFF Conservation Grants. The WFF has once again authorized the LMVJV to identify projects and facilitate funding totaling up to \$1.25 million in support of habitat restoration on frequently flooded agricultural lands within the delta of Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Interested organizations and agencies should carefully review the grant guidelines outlined in the [Request for Proposals](#).

American Planning Association Scholarships

Deadline: April 30, 2012

Undergraduate and Graduate level planning scholarships are available in amounts ranging from \$2,000-\$4,000. See [APA website](#) for more details.

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE

NATIONAL EMERGENCY TRAINING CENTER • EMMITSBURG, MD 21727



FEMA

Course: *E176 Hazards United States-Multi-Hazards (Hazus-MH) for Floodplain Managers*

Date: April 23-26, 2012

Course Description:

This course provides in-depth instruction and hands-on exercises that develop the skills needed by Certified Floodplain Managers and other Emergency Planners to effectively use the Hazus tools necessary for modeling the impacts on communities from riverine and coastal flooding. This course uses highly advanced modeling based on the E172 Hazus-MH for Flood. The course provides sophisticated analysis of flood modeling with respect to the needs of local and State Certified Floodplain Managers and Emergency Management personnel.

Course Goal:

This course provides the necessary skills for local and State Floodplain Managers to prepare for, mitigate against, respond to, and recover from floods. Instruction will emphasize user-supplied flood study inputs to assist the student in developing and calculating the most accurate flood depth and elevation information that can be produced by Hazus-MH for riverine and coastal flood hazards.

Course Length:

This course is 4 days in length. Travel days are Sunday and Friday.

Continuing Education Units (CEUs):

The Emergency Management Institute (EMI) awards 2.8 CEUs for completion of this course.

Location:

National Emergency Training Center (NETC), Emergency Management Institute (EMI), Emmitsburg, Maryland.

Pre-Requisites:

Strong Geographic Information System (GIS) experience and completion of the E313 Basic Hazus-MH course is required. In addition, E172 Hazus-MH for Flood course is recommended. Participants must currently use or be planning to use GIS and Hazus.

Target Audience:

This course is intended for the following: State and local floodplain managers, emergency planners, and emergency managers; State and local GIS specialists responsible for risk assessment activities with focus on riverine analysis; regional personnel responsible for mitigation and response activities; other Federal agencies with a need to conduct highly detailed analysis of riverine flooding.

To Apply:

Complete a FEMA Form 119-25-1, General Admissions Application with student signature and signature of supervisor or sponsoring agency official. Submit the application through the State emergency management training office who will fax it to the National Emergency Training Center (NETC) Admissions Office at (301) 447-1658. The need to attend this training must be documented in block 16 of the application. For further enrollment information, refer to the EMI web site at <http://training.fema.gov/Apply>.

EMI Point of Contact:

For additional information contact the course manager, Phillip Moore, at (301) 447-1248 or by email at phillip.moore@dhs.gov.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY



Job Corner

For the most up-to-date job listings, please visit the online [ASFPM Job Corner](#).

Floodplain Management Training Calendar

For a full nationwide listing of Chapter, State, and Partner training opportunities, please take a moment to visit the [ASFPM Online Calendar](#).

Are you looking for training opportunities to earn CECs for your CFM? If so, be sure to check out our web calendar, which already has LOTS of training opportunities listed for 2012! You can search the calendar by state using the directions below. Or you can use the category drop down menu to search by category.



Go to the calendar and click on the search feature icon at the top of the calendar. Type your state's initials in parenthesis (for example "(WI)") into the search field and it will pull all the events (training, conferences, etc.) that are currently listed on the calendar for your state. What a great way to find upcoming training for CECs! The only events without a state listed in the event title are EMI courses which are all held in Emmitsburg, MD.

Upcoming ASFPM Events – Mark your Calendar!

- May 20-25, 2012 – ASFPM 36th Annual National Conference – San Antonio, TX
- June 9-14, 2013 – ASFPM 37th Annual National Conference – Hartford, CT
- June 1-6, 2014 – ASFPM 38th Annual National Conference – Seattle, WA
- May 31 – June 5, 2015 – ASFPM 39th Annual National Conference – Atlanta, GA

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